

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01 L-03 MC-02

ACDA-19 RSR-01 /113 W

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R 271455Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6525

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 4853

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UK US SP

SUBJECT: NEW YORK TIMES EDITORIAL ON BRITISH-US SALE
OF HARRIERS TO SPAIN.

REF: MADRID 4763 AND 4792

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR AUGUST 23, FOREIGN
MINISTER LOPEZ RODO SPOKE WITH UNACCUSTOMED ANGER AND
ANNOYANCE ABOUT THE NEW YORK TIMES EDITORIAL ON THE
BRITISH-U.S. SALE OF HARRIER AIRCRAFT TO SPAIN. HE
MENTIONED THE STRONG SPANISH PRESS REACTION TO THE ARTICLE
WHICH HE SAID WAS NOT GOVERNMENT INSPIRED. HE MENTIONED
ABC, YA AND LA VANGUARDIA WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS NON-
GOVERNMENT PRESS, AND THAT THE EDITORS OF THE LATTER TWO
HAD TELEPHONED THEIR DISGUST AND SUGGESTION THAT OTHER
U.S. NEWSPAPERS SHOULD COUNTER THE NEW YORK TIMES BY
PUBLISHING THE FACTS. LOPEZ RODO SAID SPAIN'S ACQUISITION
OF THE HARRIERS HELPS WESTERN DEFENSE (WITH WHICH THE
AMBASSADOR AGREES) AND THAT ATTACKS ON SPAIN FOR
OBTAINING THIS CAPABILITY CAN ONLY BE DAMAGING TO OUR
RELATIONS, SINCE AMERICAN PUBLIC GETS A DISTORTED VIEW
OF THE FACTS. HE INTIMATED THAT THE AMBASSADOR COULD
GET THE WORD TO FRIENDS IN OTHER PAPERS, NOT OFFICIALLY
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OF COURSE. THE AMBASSADOR GAVE NO ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE

IDEA.
RIVERO

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 27 AUG 1973
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